SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
12¢
SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND
LOIS LANE
JAN.
NO. 38
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE
AUTHORITY
LOIS AND LANA... A FREAK ACCIDENT HAS TAKEN AWAY MY SUPER-POWERS AND MADE ME AN INVALID! NOW THAT I'LL BE AN ORDINARY MAN FOR LIFE, I'M SURE NEITHER OF YOU WILL WANT TO MARRY ME!
YOU'LL NEVER BE ORDINARY TO ME! YOU'LL ALWAYS BE YOU, THE MAN I LOVE! I'LL MARRY YOU!
I'LL BE HONEST WITH YOU, SUPERMAN! WITHOUT YOUR SUPER-POWERS, I WOULDN'T DREAM OF MARRYING YOU!
?
?
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"The GIRL WHO REFUSED TO MARRY SUPERMAN!"

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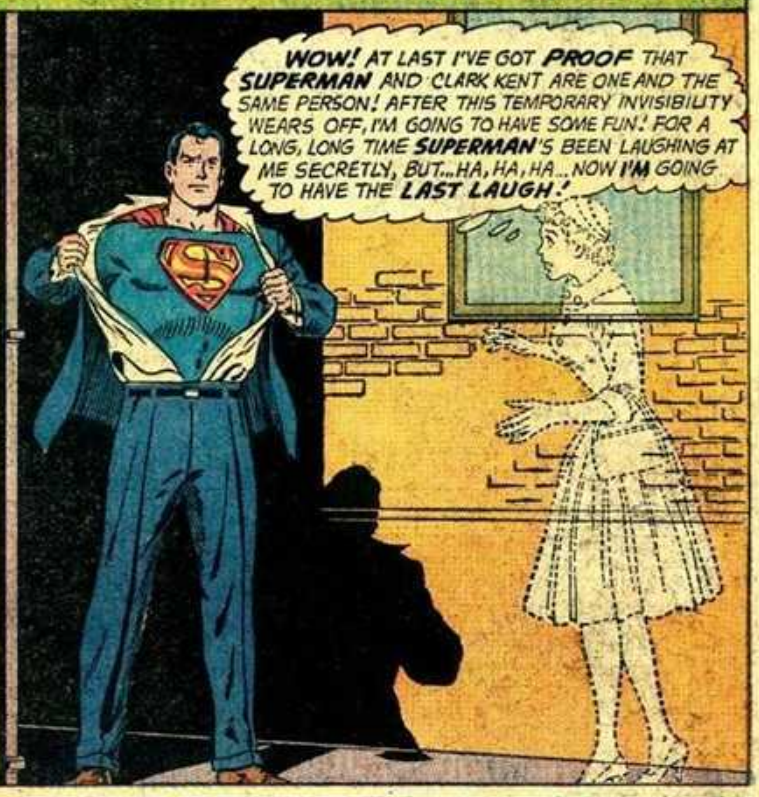
SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND

LOIS LANE

FOR MANY YEARS, **SUPERMAN** HAS PULLED THE WOOL OVER LOIS' EYES, SQUASHING HER SUSPICION THAT CLARK KENT IS THE **MAN OF STEEL**'S SECRET IDENTITY! THEN ONE DAY, LIKE A BURSTING BOMBSHELL, COMES THE DAWN! YOU'LL LAUGH... YOU'LL BE THRILLED... BUT MOST OF ALL, YOU'LL WONDER WHAT STARTLING TWISTS WILL HAPPEN NEXT IN...

The INVISIBLE LOIS LANE!


WOW! AT LAST I'VE GOT PROOF THAT SUPERMAN AND CLARK KENT ARE ONE AND THE SAME PERSON! AFTER THIS TEMPORARY INVISIBILITY WEARS OFF, I'M GOING TO HAVE SOME FUN! FOR A LONG, LONG TIME SUPERMAN'S BEEN LAUGHING AT ME SECRETLY, BUT...HA, HA, HA...NOW I'M GOING TO HAVE THE LAST LAUGH!

ONE DAY, AS ECCENTRIC PROFESSOR POTTER SHOWS LOIS LANE SOME OF HIS STARTLING DISCOVERIES...
WHOEVER DRINKS THIS AMAZING SERUM I INVENTED WILL BECOME INVISIBLE FOR A BRIEF TIME! HOWEVER...
HM-MM... I'M GETTING A TERRIFIC INSPIRATION!

AN INSTANT LATER...
OH, NO! YOU SWALLOWED THE SERUM! YOU'RE... FADING FROM VIEW!!-FOOLISH GIRL! I STARTED TO TELL YOU THAT ANY HUMAN DRINKING IT WILL SUFFER UNPLEASANT SIDE-EFFECTS... SUCH AS STRANGE HALLUCINATIONS!
IT'LL BE WORTH IT!!

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SHORTLY, AS AN INVISIBLE LOIS STROLLS ALONG A CROWDED AVENUE...
CHUCKLE! EVERYONE'S LOOKING RIGHT THROUGH ME! AS THOUGH I DIDN'T EXIST! WHAT AN EERIE SENSATION!

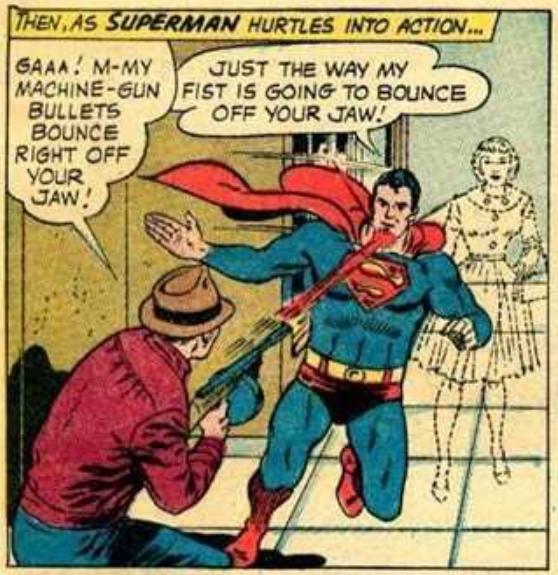
BUT AS SHE CROSSES A STREET...
GASP! THAT CRAZY, RECKLESS DRIVER ALMOST RAN ME DOWN!... OH-OH! I FORGOT HE CAN'T SEE ME! OH, DEAR, I-I DIDN'T REALIZE BEING INVISIBLE COULD BE DANGEROUS!!

AS LOIS REACHES THE PLANET BUILDING'S ENTRANCE...
OH-OH...THERE'S CLARK KENT GOING OUT FOR LUNCH! HE CAN'T SEE ME NOW... WHICH GIVES ME A WHALE OF AN IDEA!

FOR YEARS, I'VE SUSPECTED CLARK IS SUPERMAN'S SECRET IDENTITY! IN THIS STATE OF INVISIBILITY, I CAN FOLLOW HIM UNDETECTED AND DISCOVER ONCE AND FOR ALL IF HE REALLY IS THE MAN OF STEEL! HERE GOES!!

SUDDENLY, AS THE UNSEEN LOIS TRAILS HER MAN...
A ROBBERY IN BROAD DAYLIGHT! AHA! CLARK'S SLIPPING SURREPTITIOUSLY INSIDE THAT EMPTY ALLEY! I'VE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA WHY!
DIAMONDS
2

MOMENTS LATER, IN THE ALLEY...
GREAT SCOTT! CLARK TOOK OFF HIS GLASSES AND NOW HE'S REMOVING HIS OUTER GARMENTS, REVEALING A SUPERMAN COSTUME UNDERNEATH! MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT. MEEK, MILD, SHY CLARK IS SECRETLY DYNAMIC SUPERMAN!!


THEN, AS SUPERMAN HURTLES INTO ACTION...
GAAA! M-MY MACHINE-GUN BULLETS BOUNCE RIGHT OFF YOUR JAW!
JUST THE WAY MY FIST IS GOING TO BOUNCE OFF YOUR JAW!

WOW! SUPERMAN'S LIGHT TAP SENT THAT TOUGH BRUISER SAILING RIGHT THROUGH THE AIR SO HE LANDED AT SOME COP'S FEET! I'LL BET SUPERMAN WILL NOW RETURN TO THAT ALLEY AND SWITCH TO CLARK KENT AGAIN!

SHORTLY...
HA! I WAS RIGHT... OH! I'M BECOMING VISIBLE AGAIN! SHALL I TELL HIM I'M WISE TO HIS JEALOUSLY-GUARDED SECRET? --NO! WAIT!

SUPERMAN MUST HAVE HAD LOADS OF LAUGHS PULLING THE WOOL OVER MY EYES ALL THESE YEARS... BUT HERE'S WHERE THE WORM TURNS! NOW I'M GOING TO HAVE SOME SECRET LAUGHS AT HIS EXPENSE!

SOON...
WHY, CLARK, WHAT A BIG SURPRISE BUMPING UNEXPECTEDLY INTO YOU LIKE THIS!
ER...LET'S EAT TOGETHER!

BUT AS THEY NEAR A RESTAURANT...
YIPES! TH-THAT FALLING SAFE ALMOST HIT ME, AS THE ROPES HOISTING IT ALOFT SNAPPED! I MIGHT HAVE BEEN KILLED!
YOU'RE LUCKY IT MISSED YOU, CLARK!
WHAT AN ACTOR HE IS, PRETENDING HE ESCAPED DEATH! HE'S PUTTING ON THAT TREMBLING ROUTINE FOR MY BENEFIT!
KA-RASHH!

PRESENTLY, AT A LUNCH-COUNTER...
I'M SO UPSET BY THAT TERRIBLE SCARE, I-I CAN HARDLY EAT!
ME, TOO! IF THAT SAFE HAD STRUCK ME, I'D HAVE BEEN DONE FOR, SINCE SUPERMAN WASN'T NEARBY TO SAVE ME!
TWO CAN PLAY AT THIS GAME!
WHEN THEY RETURN TO THE DAILY PLANET..
CLARK, WE'VE BEEN DELUGED BY READERS' DONATIONS TO THE 'METROPOLIS ORPHANS' FUND". LATER TODAY, PLEASE COUNT THE COINS WITH THAT COUNTING MACHINE AND WRITE AN ARTICLE ANNOUNCING THE GRAND TOTAL!
OKAY!
JUST BEFORE 5 O'CLOCK..
NOW TO SABOTAGE THIS COUNTING MACHINE, SO I CAN AMUSE MYSELF AT CLARK'S EXPENSE! HE'S PUT OFF COUNTING THOSE COINS IN MY PRESENCE, SO THAT HE CAN COUNT THEM LATER AT SUPER-SPEED! WELL, WE'LL SEE WHAT WE'LL SEE!!
SOON...
?!--THE COUNTING MACHINE'S JAMMED! ER... WHY DON'T YOU RUN ALONG HOME NOW, LOIS? I'LL COUNT THEM BY HAND MYSELF!
I WOULDN'T DREAM OF MAKING YOU COUNT THESE HEAPS OF COINS ALL BY YOUR LONESOME! I'LL BE GLAD TO STAY AND HELP!
HOURS LATER...
$487.56... $487.57... $487.67...
;GROAN!;--IF ONLY SHE'D LEAVE, I COULD COUNT ALL THESE COINS IN SECONDS! BUT WITH HER AROUND, I MUST COUNT AT A SNAIL'S PACE!
GETTING IMPATIENT, SUPERMAN? HA, HA! YOU MUST BE SIZZLING!
NEXT EVENING, AS LOIS WAITS FOR CLARK TO JOIN HER AT AN AMUSEMENT PARK...
KLANG!
SUPERMAN
HE-MAN
PRETTY GOOD
SO-SO
CREAM PUFF
WEAKLING
INFANT
I GET IT! THE OWNER IS PRESSING A BUTTON, SO A HIDDEN, POWERFUL SPRING MAKES THE BALL SHOOT UP SO THAT HIS ACCOMPLICE WINS A PRIZE... THUS ATTRACTING MORE BUSINESS! --HM-MM...
RING THE BELL and WIN a PRIZE
HOORAY! I HIT THE BELL!

SHORTLY, WHEN CLARK ARRIVES...
BUT I DON'T WANT TO TEST MY STRENGTH!
GO ON AND TRY, CLARK! MAYBE YOU'RE STRONGER THAN YOU THINK!
THE SPIDER-MAN
KLANGG!
SUPERMAN
HE MAN
GOOD
0-50
EAK
GOOD FOR YOU, CLARK! YOU'RE RATED A... SUPERMAN!
HA, HA! HOW DISMAYED HE LOOKS! HE TRIED TO LOSE--AND FAILED! CLARK DOESN'T REALIZE THIS BUTTON I'M PRESSING CAUSED HIS SENSATIONAL SCORE!
RING the BELL
YOU'VE WON THE TRANSISTOR, MISTER! I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DID IT. YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE A SUPERMAN TO ME!
I GUESS ...ER... I DON'T KNOW MY OWN STRENGTH!
WHAT AN ACTOR HE IS!
THEN, AS HE YIELDS TO LOIS' ENTREATIES...
ULP!
STRANGE! I SWUNG THE HAMMER DOWN LIGHTLY, BUT I WON!
THE NEXT DAY, AS LOIS AND CLARK VISIT A WAREHOUSE OWNED BY A FRIEND WHO WAS ROBBED OF FURS...
I'M CLOSING, NOW. TAKE THESE KEYS AND LOCK UP WHEN YOU LEAVE! I HOPE YOU FIND A CLUE TO THE IDENTITY OF THE CROOKS WHO STOLE THREE MINK COATS FROM OUR FUR VAULT!
SOON, AS CLARK ENTERS THE FUR STORAGE FREEZER TO INVESTIGATE...
HA, HA! I'M LOCKING HIM IN THE FREEZER! HE'LL THINK THE DOOR SWUNG SHUT ACCIDENTALLY!
IN THE FREEZER...
AWP!--AN ORDINARY MAN WOULD SOON FREEZE TO DEATH IN HERE! I COULD FORCE OPEN THE THICK STEEL DOOR EASILY... BUT DOING SO WOULD REVEAL THE FACT THAT I'M SUPERMAN! WH-WHAT'LL I DO??

MEANWHILE... IF CLARK BURSTS OUT, HE'LL EXPOSE HIMSELF AS SUPERMAN. AND IF HE REMAINS INSIDE, WITH NO ILL EFFECTS FROM THE ZERO TEMPERATURE, THAT'LL UNMASK HIM, TOO! HA, HA! HE CAN'T ESCAPE THIS LITTLE TRAP!
LATER... BRRR... I'M SHIVERING... LUCKY THEY STORE MINK COATS IN THIS FREEZER TO KILL THE MOTH EGGS ...OR I'D HAVE FROZEN TO DEATH!
SO HERE YOU ARE! I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU!
WHAT A CLEVER COVER-UP, PRETENDING THE FUR COAT SAVED HIM FROM BECOMING A HUMAN ICICLE!
NEXT DAY, AT THE PLANET... NOW TO PULL MY BEST TRICK OF ALL!
COME WITH ME, CLARK! I'VE MADE THE MOST EXCITING DISCOVERY! PERRY WHITE IS SUPERMAN!
YOU MUST BE KIDDING!
PERRY WHITE EDITOR
MINUTES AFTERWARD, IN PERRY'S OFFICE...
HERE'S PROOF IN PERRY'S CLOSET... A SUPERMAN COSTUME... PADDING PERRY USES TO MAKE HIMSELF LOOK FAT... AND SUPER-MAN PLASTIC MASKS!
I PLANTED THEM THERE!
I STILL DON'T BELIEVE IT!
I'LL PROVE I'M RIGHT BY SHOOTING HIS INVULNERABLE SLEEPING BODY!
HA!! THIS TOY WEAPON IS FILLED WITH BLANKS! IT WAS USED BY THE "TOY GUN BANDIT" IN A HOLD-UP! I PAINTED THE GUN WITH LEAD PAINT SO CLARK'S X-RAY VISION WON'T BE ABLE TO LOOK INSIDE AND DISCOVER THE "BULLETS" ARE HARMLESS!
NO!!
CLARK WILL HAVE TO CONFESS HE HIMSELF IS SUPERMAN... IN ORDER TO "SAVE" PERRY'S LIFE! -- OH! PERRY'S AWAKENING!
HEY! PUT DOWN THAT TOY GUN!

YOU'VE ...A BLACK EYE!
YES...I BUMPED INTO A DOOR AND HURT MY EYE! I TOOK SOME PILLS TO EASE THE PAIN, AND I GUESS THEY MADE ME FALL ASLEEP!
ULP!--AN INVULNERABLE SUPERMAN COULDN'T BE INJURED OR FEEL PAIN...SO YOU CAN'T BE HIM! HMM...I-ER... GUESS SOMEONE MUST HAVE PUT THAT STUFF INTO YOUR CLOSET, AS A GAG!

DRAT! IF ONLY PERRY HAD SLEPT LONGER, I'D HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF FORCING CLARK TO REVEAL HIS SECRET!
I AWAKENED PERRY BY GIVING HIM A "HOT FOOT" WITH MY HEAT VISION! I KNEW HE HAD A BLACK EYE AND I FIGURED THAT WHEN LOIS SAW IT, SHE WOULD HAVE TO ADMIT HE COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE INVULNERABLE!

LATER, IN THE NEWSROOM...
THIS NEWS BULLETIN SAYS A SHIP'S SINKING AT SEA! HUNDREDS OF LIVES MAY BE LOST! GO SAVE IT, AT ONCE!
ME SAVE THE SHIP? WHAT CAN I POSSIBLY DO, LOIS?

YOU KNOW VERY WELL HOW YOU CAN SAVE IT! YOU'RE SUPERMAN, THE MAN OF STEEL! NOW STOP PRETENDING AND TAKE OFF!
LOIS--WHAT'S GOT INTO YOU? I'M NO MORE SUPERMAN THAN YOU ARE--JACQUELINE KENNEDY!

SWIFTLY, LOIS SNATCHES UP A SCISSORS...
I'LL PROVE I CAN CUT YOUR SUPER-STRONG HAIR, SO YOU'LL STOP STALLING! AWP!--YOUR HAIR CUT EASILY! IMPOSSIBLE!-I KNOW YOU'RE TRICKING ME SOMEHOW, BUT I'LL STILL UNMASK YOU!
SNIP!

I'LL...TEAR OPEN YOUR SHIRT REVEALING THE SUPERMAN UNIFORM UNDERNEATH!-YIPES! N-NO COSTUME! ONLY... BARE SKIN!
WHATEVER GAVE YOU THE WILD IDEA THAT I, OF ALL PEOPLE, AM SUPERMAN?

I'M NOT CRAZY! I SAW YOU SWITCH TO SUPERMAN WHILE I WAS INVISIBLE!
BUT WHY CAN'T I PROVE IT NOW!
YOU'RE SPUTTERING A LOT OF NONSENSE! EXCUSE ME WHILE I LEAVE TO TAKE CARE OF SOME PERSONAL BUSINESS!
WORRIEDLY, LOIS MAKES A HURRIED PHONE CALL...
YOU MEAN...I NEVER REALLY SAW CLARK CHANGE TO SUPERMAN PROFESSOR POTTER!
CORRECT! YOU MUST HAVE IMAGINED IT WHILE INVISIBLE! I WARNED YOU OF THE SERUM'S SIDE-EFFECTS, THAT IT CAUSED STRANGE HALLUCINATIONS!
MEANWHILE, HIGH IN THE CLOUDS ABOVE THE PLANET BUILDING...
MY SUPER-HEARING AND SUPER-VISION REVEAL ALL THAT'S HAPPENING BELOW, IN THE PLANET OFFICE! CHUCKLE! IF LOIS KNEW THE REAL EXPLANATION, SHE'D FLIP!
"AFTER THE STRANGE ACTIONS LOIS HAS BEEN PULLING LATELY, I GUESSED SHE HAD DISCOVERED MY DUAL-IDENTITY SECRET AND WAS TOYING WITH ME...LIKE A CAT WITH A MOUSE! SLIPPING AWAY, I CONTACTED AN AMNESIA VICTIM AT METROPOLIS HOSPITAL...
THEY TELL ME I'M ROY WILKINS, A TEST-PILOT WHO LOST HIS MEMORY IN A PLANE CRASH! BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT MY LIFE BEFORE THE ACCIDENT!
"QUICKLY, I HAD HIM DON A CLARK KENT MASK AND DISGUISING GLASSES..."
AFTER I FLY YOU TO THE PLANET, DENY YOU'RE SUPERMAN IF A REPORTER NAMED LOIS LANE ACCUSES YOU! I'LL REWARD YOU BY RESTORING YOUR MEMORY LATER!
IT'S A DEAL!
THE AMNESIA VICTIM FOLLOWED MY INSTRUCTIONS PERFECTLY! THAT'S WHY LOIS WAS ABLE TO CUT "CLARK'S" HAIR, AND COULDN'T DISCOVER A SUPERMAN COSTUME BENEATH HIS SHIRT! AND WHILE LOIS WASTED HER TIME TRYING TO PROVE HE WAS SUPERMAN, I RESCUED
THAT SINKING SHIP...!

PRESENTLY, BEHIND THE NEWSPAPER BUILDING...
I DID MY PART, SUPERMAN! NOW IT'S UP TO YOU TO DO YOURS!
IT'LL BE A PLEASURE, ROY!
BLUE STAR EDITION
NET

MINUTES LATER, THE MAN OF STEEL SOMERSAULTS HIGH IN THE SKY WITH THE FORMER TEST PILOT, AND THEN!
GREAT SCOTT...A CLOUD HAS LIFTED FROM MY MIND! I REMEMBER EVERYTHING ABOUT MY LIFE UNTIL MY PLANE CRACKED UP-- THEN EVERYTHING IS A BLANK! WHAT AM I DOING UP IN THE AIR WITH YOU, SUPERMAN?
IT WORKED! THE AERIAL GYRATIONS RESTORED HIS MEMORY UP UNTIL THE MOMENT OF THE ACCIDENT!

AFTER SUPERMAN EXPLAINS... THE SECRET OF MY DUAL IDENTITY IS NOW SAFE FROM BOTH LOIS AND THIS TEST PILOT! AFTER THEIR MEMORIES RETURN, FORMER AMNESIA VICTIMS CAN'T RECALL WHAT HAPPENED DURING THEIR PERIOD OF AMNESIA!
I UNDERSTAND NOW, SUPERMAN! THANKS FOR EVERYTHING!

LATER, AS LOIS MODELS AT A CELEBRITY STYLE SHOW...
TO THINK I ALMOST FROZE YOU TO DEATH IN THAT FUR VAULT...! I PROMISE NEVER AGAIN TO TRY AND PROVE YOU'RE SUPERMAN!
A NICE RESOLUTION, LOIS... BUT I DOUBT IF YOU'LL KEEP IT VERY LONG!
THE END
9

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ON SALE EVERYWHERE... NOV. 8th

VARSITY VIC
I'M READY, VIC!
GOOD. LET'S GO TO TOWN. THEY'RE SHOWING A GOOD MOVIE!
WHY-IT'S RAINING!
OH, DON'T WORRY.
TAXI!
A TAXI! WHAT A BIG SPORT VIC IS.
DRIVER, TAKE US TO THE NEXT CORNER, BY THE BUS STOP. WE WANT TO CATCH THE BUS THAT GOES TO TOWN!
BUS STOP

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND

LOIS LANE

TIME AND AGAIN READERS HAVE ASKED, "WHY DOESN'T **SUPERMAN** GIVE LOIS A SUPER-SONIC SIGNAL WATCH LIKE THE ONE HE GAVE JIMMY OLSEN?" THINK OF IT! WHENEVER THE DARING GIRL REPORTER SHOULD RUN INTO DANGER, THE SIGNAL DEVICE WOULD BRING **SUPERMAN** TO HER SIDE TO WARD OFF ALL PERIL! SOUNDS GREAT, DOESN'T IT? BUT JUST WAIT TILL YOU READ OF THE TANGLED WEB OF INTRIGUE AND DANGER THAT FATE HAS WOVEN AROUND—

LOIS LANE'S SIGNAL WATCH!

SUPERMAN! THANK HEAVENS YOU ANSWERED THE SUPERSONIC CALL ON THAT **SIGNAL-WATCH** YOU GAVE ME! I'M TRAPPED UNDER THESE FALLEN STALACTITES! YOU'VE GOT TO SAVE ME!

ZEEE-ZEEE ZEEE

SAVE YOU? HA! HA! THAT'S THE FUNNIEST GAG I'VE HEARD IN YEARS! WHY, YOU DUMB DAME! PLASTIC SURGERY CHANGED MY FACE SO I LOOK **EXACTLY** LIKE **SUPERMAN!** NOW I'VE GOT YOU WHERE I WANT YOU!

ONE DAY, AT A CRIMINAL HIDEOUT IN **METROPOLIS**...

FOR PETE'S SAKE, BOSS, THAT PLASTIC SURGERY OPERATION MADE ME LOOK LIKE **SUPERMAN!** WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

RELAX, "MUSCLES"! THAT'S JUST WHO YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO LOOK LIKE!

THE WORLD LOST A GREAT SURGEON WHEN THEY KICKED YOU OUT OF MEDICAL SCHOOL, DOC! HERE'S YOUR DOUGH!

THANKS, KIMBO! BUT REMEMBER-- I GET ANOTHER FIVE GRAND WHEN THIS JOB IS FINISHED!

BUT, KIMBO, WHY'D YOU MAKE ME LOOK LIKE SUPERMAN?
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER! RIGHT NOW I WANT YOU TO STUDY THESE PICTURES OF SUPERMAN'S FRIENDS AND LEARN TO RECOGNIZE THEM ON SIGHT! I ALSO WANT YOU TO PRACTICE IMITATING HIS VOICE FROM SOME RECORDS I HAVE!
LOIS LANE
LANA LANG
JIMMY OLSEN
PERRY WHITE

DAYS LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF THE DAILY PLANET, LOIS LANE CONFERS WITH EDITOR PERRY WHITE...
PERRY, IT'S FIVE YEARS SINCE BUGS GORCEY, THE RACKET KING, VANISHED! ISN'T IT TIME WE OPENED THAT SEALED LETTER HE LEFT FOR ME?
THE FIVE YEARS WILL BE UP THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW, AT 3 O'CLOCK! GORCEY'S INSTRUCTIONS SAY WE CAN PRESUME HE'S DEAD BY THEN! HE SAID THIS LETTER HAD IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YOU!
TO LOIS LANE

I ONCE RUSHED BUGS TO THE HOSPITAL WHEN A RIVAL GANG SHOT HIM! HE SAID HE'D REPAY ME SOME DAY! I WONDER...
RUMORS SAY THAT GORCEY HAD A MILLION-DOLLAR SMUGGLING DEAL COOKING WHEN HE VANISHED! MAYBE THAT LETTER TELLS YOU WHERE TO LOCATE THE MYSTERIOUS LOOT!
TO LOIS LANE

GORCEY MEANT TO REPAY YOU WITH A SCOOP! BUT YOUR LIFE MAY BE IN DANGER IF YOU LEARN THE LOCATION OF THAT LOOT! WHY NOT NOTIFY SUPERMAN?
BECAUSE HE'S ON A MISSION IN THE BOTTLE OF KANDOR! BESIDES, THIS COULD BE THE SCOOP OF A LIFETIME! I WANT TO HANDLE IT ON MY OWN!

LOIS DOESN'T REALIZE IT, BUT A HIDDEN MICROPHONE AND A MINIATURE RADIO ARE BROADCASTING THE DETAILS OF THEIR CONVERSATION...
ALL RIGHT, LOIS... WE'LL OPEN THE ENVELOPE AT 3 IN THE AFTERNOON A DAY AFTER TOMORROW!
OKAY, PERRY! I'M COVERING A SHIP ARRIVAL THAT MORNING! I'LL COME RIGHT HERE AFTERWARD!
2

AND IN A GANGLAND HIDEOUT, EAGER EARS OVERHEAR...
AND STOP WORRYING, PERRY! NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT GORCEY'S LETTER BUT YOU AND ME!
CHUCKLE! THAT'S WHAT SHE THINKS! I ALWAYS SUSPECTED GORCEY GAVE LOIS LANE THE LOCATION OF HIS LOOT BEFORE HE DISAPPEARED! THAT'S WHY I HAD THE PLANET OFFICE WIRED!

ALL RIGHT, MUSCLES, TRY THIS COSTUME ON FOR SIZE! IN TWO DAYS YOU'RE GOING ON YOUR FIRST MISSION--AS SUPERMAN!
IF EVERYTHING GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN, GORCEY'S LOOT WILL BE IN OUR HANDS IN TWO DAYS!
TWO DAYS LATER, ON THE METROPOLIS WATERFRONT...
SUPERMAN! I THOUGHT YOU WERE ON A MISSION IN KANDOR!
I JUST GOT BACK, LOIS! BY THE WAY, HERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN MEANING TO GIVE YOU... THIS SIGNAL-WATCH!
IT'S JUST LIKE THE ONE I GAVE JIMMY! SO, IF YOU'RE IN TROUBLE, JUST SIGNAL ME LIKE THIS IN AN EMERGENCY!
OHHH, SUPERMAN! WHAT A THRILLING GIFT!
ZEEEEE
ZEEEE
LOIS, MY SUPER-HEARING DETECTED YOUR CONVERSATION WITH PERRY ABOUT GORCEY'S HIDDEN LOOT! PROMISE YOU'LL SIGNAL ME IF YOU GET IN A JAM!
OH, I WILL!
CHOKE! I NEVER REALIZED HOW MUCH HE WORRIES ABOUT ME!
GOODBYE, LOIS! I'VE GOT TO HELP TEST THE ESCAPE HATCH ON A NEW ATOMIC SUBMARINE! REMEMBER, DON'T MENTION THAT WATCH TO ANYONE!
GOODBYE, SUPER-MAN, DEAR!
THAT WATCH SHOWS HOW MUCH HE CARES FOR ME! OH, JOY! PERHAPS SOME DAY SOON HE'LL BE GIVING ME A RING!
BUT MOMENTS LATER, UNDER A NEARBY PIER...
IT WORKED LIKE A CHARM, BOSS! THE LANE DAME WILL BE WEARING THAT SIGNAL WATCH 24 HOURS A DAY!
GOOD WORK, "MUSCLES"! WITH THAT WATCH, WHICH SIGNALS ONLY US, LOIS LANE WILL LEAD US RIGHT TO GORCEY'S MILLION-DOLLAR LOOT!
3

BUT AS LOIS REPORTS TO WORK, SHE RUNS INTO JIMMY OLSEN...
THAT'S RIGHT, LOIS... I STOPPED A RUNAWAY HORSE IN THE PARK! I TRIED TO SIGNAL SUPERMAN, BUT I FORGOT HE WAS IN KANDOR!
BUT, JIMMY, I SPOKE TO HIM AND HE EVEN GAVE... ER... MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT! I WAS MISTAKEN!
I MUSTN'T MENTION MY WATCH! SUPERMAN ASKED ME NOT TO... ULP... THAT IS, IF IT WAS SUPERMAN!
BUT PRYING EARS HAVE HEARD THE CONVERSATION...
THIS IS BAD! IF LOIS LANE THINKS IT WAS A FAKE SUPERMAN WHO SPOKE TO HER TODAY, SHE MAY SUSPECT THAT THE SIGNAL-WATCH WAS A PHONEY, TOO!
GROAN! SHE'S GOT TO BELIEVE IT'S THE REAL THING! OUR WHOLE PLAN DEPENDS ON IT!
MEANWHILE, IN PERRY'S OFFICE, BUGS GORCEY'S LETTER IS OPENED...
GERONIMO! YOU WERE RIGHT, PERRY! THIS LETTER TELLS EXACTLY WHERE TO FIND THE LOOT THAT GORCEY HID!
HMM! BUT THAT HIDING PLACE IS A DILLY! YOU'LL NEED SPECIAL EQUIPMENT TO REACH IT! I'LL ORDER IT FOR YOU AT ONCE!
SOON...
IT'S ALL ARRANGED! THE EQUIPMENT YOU NEED WILL BE LOADED IN A PLANET STATION WAGON! YOU CAN PICK IT UP IN AN HOUR AT THIS ADDRESS!
GOOD! I'LL FINISH MY STORY ON THAT SHIP ARRIVAL, AND THEN I'LL TAKE A TAXI!
AND IN THE GANG HIDEOUT...
SO SHE'S GOING TO TAKE A TAXI, EH? BOYS, I THINK I KNOW HOW TO PROVE TO LOIS LANE THAT SHE REALLY SAW SUPERMAN TODAY! DOC--PUT ON THESE DARK GLASSES--YOU'RE ABOUT TO BECOME A TAXI DRIVER!
AN HOUR LATER...
A MILLION DOLLARS IN HIDDEN LOOT! WHAT A SCOOP! BUT FIRST I'D BETTER PICK UP THAT SPECIAL EQUIPMENT PERRY ORDERED!
STEP RIGHT IN, MISS!
CHUCKLE! I TIMED IT PERFECTLY! NOW IF ONLY THE REST OF KIMBO'S PLAN WORKS!
OH, TAXI!
TAXI
4

SOON, AS THE TAXI RACES DOWN A STEEP INCLINE...
EEEYOW! BRAKES JUST FAILED! THE TAXI'S OUT OF CONTROL!
ULP! WHAT A SPOT! I'D BETTER CALL SUPERMAN!
GULP! THAT IS, IF THIS SIGNAL-WATCH WORKS!
AS THE WATCH SENDS OUT ITS SUPERSONIC SIGNAL...
HEY! WE'RE SLOWING DOWN... WHAT'S UP?
SEARCH ME, LADY!
THE CAR WAS NEVER REALLY OUT OF CONTROL! I'M SLOWING IT DOWN WITH MY BRAKES!
ZEEE! ZEEE!
SKRREEEECH
HEY, MISS, LOOK! IT WAS SUPERMAN WHO STOPPED US!
SUPERMAN! HE ANSWERED MY CALL! THEN MY SIGNAL-WATCH WORKS AFTER ALL!
CHUCKLE! IT'S REALLY "MUSCLES" IN DISGUISE! HE WAS WAITING HERE AT THIS PRE-ARRANGED SPOT!
2 5G218
THANK HEAVENS HE CAME ON TIME! I THOUGHT MY GOOSE WAS COOKED!
NOW IT'S UP TO "MUSCLES" TO FAKE SUPERMAN'S "FLIGHT" AWAY FROM THIS PHONEY RESCUE!
HA! HA! AS SOON AS THIS COMPRESSED HELIUM INFLATES THIS RUBBER BALLOON OF SUPERMAN, IT'LL RISE IN THE AIR, AND THAT LANE DAME WILL THINK IT'S HER DREAM BOY FLYING AWAY!
PRESENTLY...
IT WAS ONLY A TEMPORARY BRAKE FAILURE, MISS! I WANTED TO THANK SUPERMAN, BUT HE JUST TOOK OFF!
HA! THAT BALLOON LOOKS LIKE THE REAL SUPERMAN!
HE DIDN'T EVEN WAIT FOR OUR THANKS! ISN'T HE JUST WONDERFUL?

SOON, AT THE EDGE OF METROPOLIS...
TO AVOID BEING FOLLOWED, I LEFT THAT CAB BLOCKS FROM HERE... HMM... ALL THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT IS LOADED IN THIS STATION WAGON AND IS WAITING FOR ME JUST AS PERRY ARRANGED IT!
ACME INDUSTRIAL & SAFETY EQUIPMENT CO.
DAILY PLAN

A LONG DRIVE ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE BRINGS LOIS TO A REMOTE DESTINATION, AND...
ACCORDING TO BUGS GORCEY'S INSTRUCTIONS, HIS MYSTERIOUS LOOT IS HIDDEN IN OLD BAT GROTTO! I'LL EXPLORE IT AS SOON AS I PUT ON THESE MINER'S CLOTHES!

PRESENTLY, AS LOIS ENTERS THE CAVE...
BRRR! WHAT A CREEPY PLACE! ACCORDING TO GORCEY'S INSTRUCTIONS, I'VE GOT TO TILT THE MIDDLE STALAGMITE OF THAT LARGE GROUP OVER THERE!

NEXT MOMENT...
OMIGOSH! TILTING THAT STALAGMITE OPENED A HIDDEN DOOR IN THE ROCK FORMATION! THERE'S A CHEST HIDDEN INSIDE!
KREE-EK!

GOOD GRIEF! IT'S LOADED WITH DIAMONDS! NOW I REMEMBER! THERE WAS A BIG ROBBERY OF INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS IN EUROPE ABOUT SIX YEARS AGO! GORCEY MUST HAVE SMUGGLED THE STOLEN GOODS INTO THIS COUNTRY! I'LL HAVE TO CALL SUPERMAN TO HELP ME WITH THAT CHEST!
ZEE-ZEEE

AN INSTANT LATER, IN A HOVERING HELICOPTER...
THERE'S YOUR SUPERSONIC SIGNAL, KIMBO! IT SEEMS TO BE COMING FROM THAT CAVE!
ZEEEE-ZEEEE-ZEEEE,
,ZEEEE-
ZEEEE-ZEE
HA! LOIS THINKS SHE'S SIGNALING SUPERMAN! IS SHE DUE FOR A SURPRISE WHEN SHE LEARNS HER WATCH IS SO FIXED THAT ITS SIGNAL REACHES ONLY OUR SPECIAL RADIO!

PRESENTLY...
IT'S MIKE KIMBO, THE RACKET KING-PIN! HE AND HIS GANG MUST HAVE TRAILED ME! I'D BETTER DUCK FOR COVER!
STAND WHERE YOU ARE, MISS LANE, OR MY NEXT BULLETS WILL BE AIMED RIGHT AT YOU!
BANG
BANG

BUT KIMBO'S BULLETS HAVE STRUCK SEVERAL WEAK-END STALACTITES, AND...
RUMBLE
CRASH
EEEEE! THOSE STALACTITES ARE FALLING RIGHT DOWN ON ME!

THOUGH MIRACULOUSLY UNINJURED, LOIS FINDS HERSELF TRAPPED, BUT...
I'M PINNED DOWN HERE! BUT WHY DOESN'T SUPERMAN ANSWER MY SIGNAL? HMM... THE WATCH WAS DAMAGED BY THE FALLING STALACTITES, BUT I'LL TRY IT AGAIN!
ZEEEE-
ZEEE-

AN INSTANT LATER, THE CALL SEEMS ANSWERED, BUT...
FORGET THE WATCH, GIRLIE! IT'S A PHONEY! I GAVE IT TO YOU MYSELF WHILE PRETENDING TO BE SUPERMAN!
IT WAS RIGGED SO THAT THE SIGNAL WOULD GUIDE US TO YOU WHEN YOU FOUND GORCEY'S LOOT! HA! HA!
OH, NO!

JUST THEN...
LOOK! IT'S SUPERGIRL! SHOOT!
BANG
BULLETS WON'T STOP HER, YOU FOOL! SHE'S INVULNERABLE! RUN FOR IT!

BUT SUPERGIRL'S AMAZING HEAT VISION MELTS THE STALACTITES AND STALAGMITES INTO A BARRIER...
OUCH... MY NOSE!
WHAT'S THE RUSH, BOYS? YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!

PRESENTLY, THE CROOKS ARE SEALED IN A LIMESTONE CAGE...
CHEE! YOU BROKE MY NOSE, SUPERGIRL!
GOSH, I'M SORRY, "SUPERMAN"-! CHUCKLE!- BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE AS INVULNERABLE AS I AM!

AFTER THE GANG AND THE DIAMONDS ARE DELIVERED TO THE AUTHORITIES...
BUT IF THE SIGNAL-WATCH WAS A PHONEY, HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO FIND ME, SUPERGIRL?
WHEN THE FALLING STALACTITES STRUCK THE WATCH, THEY CHANGED THE FREQUENCY OF THE SIGNAL! BY A FREAK TWIST, THE NEW FREQUENCY WAS TUNED TO MY SUPER-HEARING, JUST AS THE FREQUENCY OF JIMMY'S WATCH IS TUNED ONLY TO SUPERMAN'S HEARING!

"THEN, WITH MY TELESCOPIC VISION, I TRACED THE COURSE OF THE SUPERSONIC ALARM, AND..."
IT'S LOIS LANE! THOSE CROOKS HAVE HER TRAPPED IN OLD BAT GROTTO! I'D BETTER HURRY!
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LATER, AS SUPERGIRL BIDS FAREWELL TO LOIS...
I'M SORRY THAT SIGNAL-WATCH WAS A FAKE! BUT BETWEEN US GIRLS, PERHAPS SOME DAY SOON YOU MAY GET A GENUINE SIGNAL-WATCH!
OH, SUPERGIRL, DO YOU THINK IT WILL REALLY HAPPEN SOME DAY?
HOW ABOUT IT, READERS? DO YOU THINK LOIS OUGHT TO HAVE HER OWN SIGNAL-WATCH? WRITE AND TELL US YOUR VIEW!
The End

HI! I'm JOHNNY DC, THE MASCOT AT SUPERMAN DC PUBLICATIONS.

Every year, one of my greatest pleasures is looking forward to reading the Annual Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer Magazine... This year I'm getting a real treat. We have published a GIANT ANNUAL starring Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer, in three complete novelettes plus Games and Puzzles aplenty! You might say it's more fun than a barrel of monkeys... a Triple-Pleasure Treasure!

Give yourself a real CHRISTMAS PRESENT! And get some extra copies as gifts for your friends!

The GIANT ANNUAL Rudolph the RED-NOSED REINDEER

NOW ON SALE WHEREVER THE BEST COMICS MAGAZINES ARE SOLD!

Dear Editor: I enjoyed the story, "Lois Lane's Childhood" (LOIS LANE, No. 26) so much, that I wish you would feature another story which portrays Lois as a tot. How about it?

Richard Nordquist, Rochester, N. Y.

(Your wish will come true in a forthcoming issue of SUPERMAN (No. 159) which features one of the most fascinating "Imaginary" novels we have ever presented. Written by Edmond Hamilton, who authored that recent hit, "The Last Days of Superman", this new three-parter tells what would have happened if Earth had exploded and baby Lois had been sent in a rocket to the planet Krypton where, due to an ingenious twist, she would have had superpowers. We predict this great novel will top them all!—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: I think Lana Lang would make a much better wife for SUPERMAN than Lois Lane for the following reasons: She is prettier than Lois. . . . She is not as inquisitive as Lois. . . . She is not as jealous as Lois. . . . She does not get into as much trouble as Lois. . . . She knows SUPERMAN longer than Lois, ever since he was SUPERBOY back in Smallville.

Joe Pedicino, Marietta, Ga.

(We think you are overlooking several of Lois' qualifications. She is a better reporter than Lana . . . she has offered to sacrifice her life to save SUPERMAN on many occasions . . . she has proved to be more generous than Lana, and often does good deeds anonymously, without wanting credit. However, to sum it up, both girls have virtues which far outweigh their faults—so, let the best girl win!—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: Why does Lois Lane always cry, cry, cry? You can answer WITH a wisecrack.

Jim Watson, Detroit, Mich.

(Lois always cries because she is a "sob sister." ("Sob sister") is the journalistic synonym for a girl reporter.—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: In the August issue, in the story, "The Amazing Brain Machine", you showed Lana Lang feeding various bits of information about Superman into the computer machine, "Maniac". One of the items she fed into this machine was Superman's cape. Where did Lana get hold of it?

Lorraine Turner, Simmesport, La.

(We neglected to state that this was a replica of the real cape.—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: Why don't you publish an imaginary story, "The Death of Lois Lane"? I enjoy sad stories, like "The Death of Superman."

Joseph Devine, Beacon, N. Y.

(Sorry, but we allow only one "death" a year. We "killed" Superman last year, and we are polishing off a member of the Legion of Super-Heroes in the February issue of ADVENTURE Comics. So Lois will have to wait her turn.—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: I enjoyed the contest inviting your readers to choose a new hair-do for Lois in the GIANT LOIS LANE ANNUAL. But don't you think Lana Lang could use a new hair-do, too? After all, she has a pretty face and deserves a new coiffure.

Linda Love, Ames, Iowa.

(Great idea! We'll feature a contest to select a new hair-do for Lana Lang in the next GIANT LOIS LANE ANNUAL, which will also feature stories about Lana, Lori, Lyla and other women in Superman's life. Incidentally, we received more than 6,000 entries in the Lois Lane hair-do Contest, and we hope to announce the winners in a very early issue of this magazine. —Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: In the recent story, "Lana Lang's Romance With Superman III", we see that Lana works for a TV station, WMET. But, in an older story, "The Irresistible Lois Lane", we see that Lana works for Station METV. What's your alibi?

Madelaine Eickles, Whitestone, N. Y.

(We guess that Mr. Mxyzptlk impishly scrambled the letters to embarrass us. The important thing, however, is that the identifying letters, MET (short for METropolis) remained intact in each tale.—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: In the recent story, "The Madam Jekyll of Metropolis", while Lois is under a weird spell, she cuts off Lana Lang's hair, making her bald and forcing her to wear a wig. Well, will we see Lana when she has a date and loses her wig?

Tommy Crawford, Miami Springs, Fla.

(We hate to disappoint you, but Professor Potter provided Lana with a special serum which made her hair grow back overnight.—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: In "The Amazing Brain Machine", on Page 7 we see Clark losing his glasses, then on the next page, he is shown wearing them again. How do you explain this boo-boo?

Andrew Koleszar, Jr., Trumbull, Conn.

(Artist Kurt Schaffenberger had misplaced his glasses while working on these pages.—Ed.)

Send all comments on a postal card to LETTERS TO LOIS, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

TOUCHDOWN for PICASSO!

SAY, STAN, MY FOLKS HAVE AN EXTRA TICKET FOR AN ALL-BEETHOVEN CONCERT TONIGHT. HOW ABOUT JOINING US?
BEETHOVEN CONCERT? ARE YOU CRAZY? THAT'S FOR SISSIES--NOT FOR A REAL FOOTBALL PLAYER LIKE I'M GONNA BE!

AW, IT MUST BE A GAG! A GUY LIKE BIFF DOESN'T BOTHER WITH STUFF LIKE THAT! I'M GONNA SEE HIM TONIGHT FOR SOME FOOTBALL POINTERS--I'LL GET THE LOWDOWN ON THIS!

THAT EVENING...
HIYA, STAN... I'LL BE THROUGH IN A SECOND... NOTHING AS RELAXING TO ME AS LISTENING TO SOME BACH OR BRAHMS, AND DOING A LITTLE PAINTING...

OF COURSE, I'LL NEVER BE A VAN GOGH OR PICASSO, BUT IT'S A LOT OF FUN TRYING YOUR HAND AT PAINTING, OR JUST LEARNING TO APPRECIATE THE GREAT MASTERS...

OKAY, STAN, I'M READY NOW. YOU'RE HERE FOR SOME FOOTBALL POINTERS...
YES, BIFF, BUT I GUESS I CAN USE SOME POINTERS ON OTHER THINGS AS WELL!

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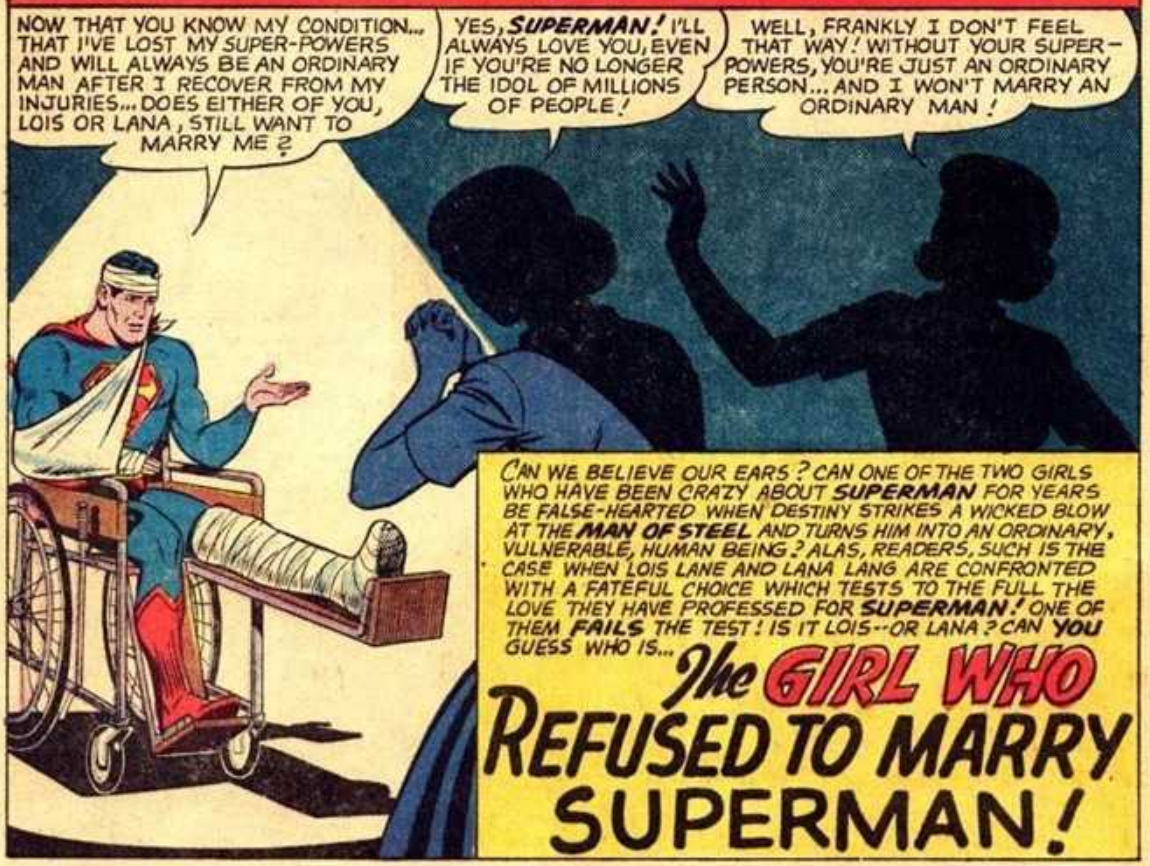
SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND LOIS LANE


NOW THAT YOU KNOW MY CONDITION... THAT I'VE LOST MY SUPER-POWERS AND WILL ALWAYS BE AN ORDINARY MAN AFTER I RECOVER FROM MY INJURIES... DOES EITHER OF YOU, LOIS OR LANA, STILL WANT TO MARRY ME?
YES, SUPERMAN! I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YOU, EVEN IF YOU'RE NO LONGER THE IDOL OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE!
WELL, FRANKLY I DON'T FEEL THAT WAY! WITHOUT YOUR SUPER-POWERS, YOU'RE JUST AN ORDINARY PERSON... AND I WON'T MARRY AN ORDINARY MAN!

CAN WE BELIEVE OUR EARS? CAN ONE OF THE TWO GIRLS WHO HAVE BEEN CRAZY ABOUT **SUPERMAN** FOR YEARS BE FALSE-HEARTED WHEN DESTINY STRIKES A WICKED BLOW AT THE **MAN OF STEEL** AND TURNS HIM INTO AN ORDINARY, VULNERABLE, HUMAN BEING? ALAS, READERS, SUCH IS THE CASE WHEN LOIS LANE AND LANA LANG ARE CONFRONTED WITH A FATEFUL CHOICE WHICH TESTS TO THE FULL THE LOVE THEY HAVE PROFESSED FOR **SUPERMAN!** ONE OF THEM **FAILS** THE TEST! IS IT LOIS--OR LANA? CAN **YOU** GUESS WHO IS...

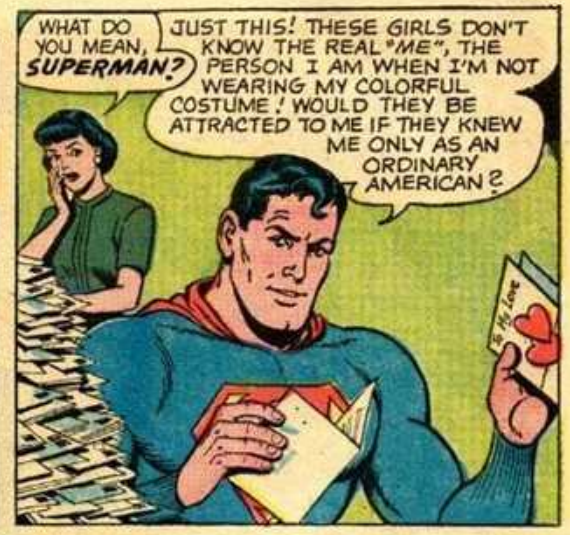
The GIRL WHO REFUSED TO MARRY SUPERMAN!

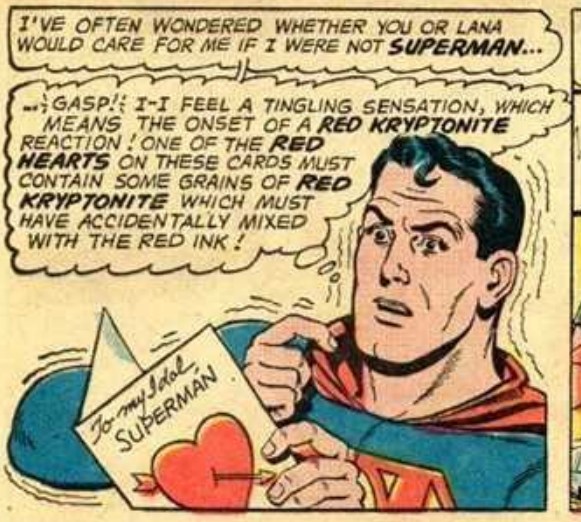
ONE MORNING, AT THE **DAILY PLANET**...

WELL, SUPERMAN, THERE THEY ARE! THOUSANDS OF ST. VALENTINE'S DAY CARDS ADDRESSED TO YOU IN CARE OF THE PLANET!
GOSH, PERRY! THIS IS EMBARRASSING!
FEB. 14 VALENTINE DAY

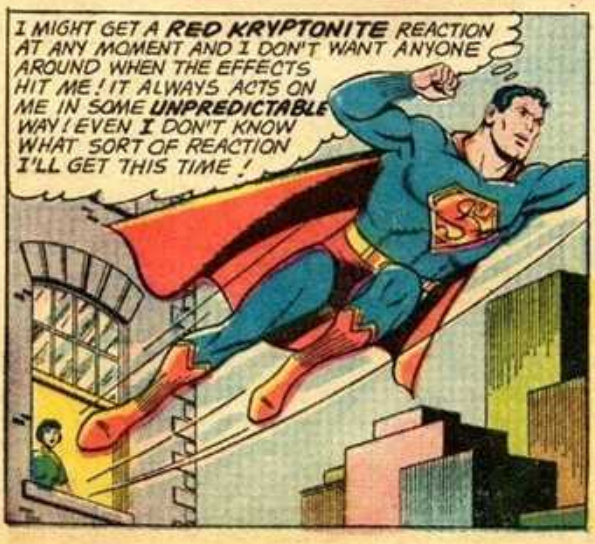
TUSH! MY CARD IS IN THERE, AND I'M SURE LANA LANG DIDN'T FORGET YOU, EITHER! SO, SUPPOSE YOU START READING THEM! IT'S THE LEAST YOU OWE THE PEOPLE WHO SENT THEM!
WELL... ER... OKAY, LOIS!

MOMENTS LATER, AS SUPERMAN USES HIS FANTASTIC SPEED...
HOLY CATS! HE'S READING 1,000 CARDS A SECOND!
HERE'S THE CARD YOU SENT, LOIS! ALSO LANA LANG'S! BUT I WONDER IF YOU BOTH ARE ANY DIFFERENT FROM THESE FEMALE ADMIRERS WHO KNOW ME ONLY AS SUPERMAN, THE GREAT, GLAMOROUS HERO!


WHAT DO YOU MEAN, SUPERMAN?
JUST THIS! THESE GIRLS DON'T KNOW THE REAL "ME", THE PERSON I AM WHEN I'M NOT WEARING MY COLORFUL COSTUME! WOULD THEY BE ATTRACTED TO ME IF THEY KNEW ME ONLY AS AN ORDINARY AMERICAN?
To My Love


I'VE OFTEN WONDERED WHETHER YOU OR LANA WOULD CARE FOR ME IF I WERE NOT SUPERMAN...
GASP!! I-I FEEL A TINGLING SENSATION, WHICH MEANS THE ONSET OF A RED KRYPTONITE REACTION! ONE OF THE RED HEARTS ON THESE CARDS MUST CONTAIN SOME GRAINS OF RED KRYPTONITE WHICH MUST HAVE ACCIDENTALLY MIXED WITH THE RED INK!
To my Idol, SUPERMAN

GOSH, SUPERMAN! I'VE NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THAT, BUT WHY TALK ABOUT IT--YOU'LL NEVER CEASE BEING SUPERMAN!
ER... MAYBE SO, LOIS! ANYWAY, I MUST LEAVE NOW! I HAVE SOME IMPORTANT MATTERS TO ATTEND TO!
AND HOW I HAVE!


I MIGHT GET A RED KRYPTONITE REACTION AT ANY MOMENT AND I DON'T WANT ANYONE AROUND WHEN THE EFFECTS HIT ME! IT ALWAYS ACTS ON ME IN SOME UNPREDICTABLE WAY! EVEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT SORT OF REACTION I'LL GET THIS TIME!

SERIOUSLY, LOIS, SUPERMAN RAISED A GOOD QUESTION! YOU AND LANA HAVE BEEN MAD ABOUT SUPERMAN FOR YEARS! BUT WOULD EITHER OF YOU STILL LOVE HIM IF HE WEREN'T THE GREATEST SUPER-HERO OF ALL TIME?
OF COURSE I WOULD, PERRY!
BUT... HONESTLY... WOULD I? I WONDER...

SHORTLY, AS SUPERMAN PATROLS METROPOLIS...
WELL, I GUESS THAT RED KRYPTONITE TINGLING WAS ONLY A FALSE ALARM! NOTHING'S HAPPENED TO ME! OH-OH... SOME CROOKS MAKING A GETAWAY AFTER ROBBING A BANK! WELL, THEY WON'T GET FAR!
BANK
OMIGOSH! LOOK! SUPERMAN'S SEEN US!

THEN, AS ONE DESPAIRING GUNMAN LOSES HIS HEAD...
I'LL FIX THAT CHARACTER! I'VE GOT A HAND GRENADE HERE! HE'S GOING TO GET IT!
YOU FOOL! WHAT GOOD IS A GRENADE AGAINST SUPERMAN? HIS BODY IS INDESTRUCTIBLE!
WHIZZZ

BUT TO SUPERMAN'S AMAZEMENT AND AGONY...
YEOOWWW!
KABOOOM!
HOLY SMOKES! THAT GRENADE STOPPED SUPERMAN! SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HIS SUPER-POWERS!

OHHHHH!
WHATEVER'S HAPPENED TO HIM, IT'S A BREAK FOR US! COME ON! LET'S GO!
KRUMMPPP!

LATER, IN METROPOLIS HOSPITAL...
W-WAIT! THAT HAND-GRENADE... MY FACE... I-I REMEMBER FALLING! WHERE AM I?
IN A HOSPITAL, MY GOOD MAN, GETTING A BLOOD TRANSFUSION! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA OF MASQUERADING AS SUPERMAN?
3

MASQUERADING? ARE YOU MAD? I AM SUPERMAN! I...;GROAN!;... OHH, MY LEGS! MY ARMS! THEY HURT SO...
TAKE IT EASY, MISTER, AND LIE STILL! YOU'VE GOT BROKEN BONES AND WE'VE TAKEN A DOZEN GRENADE SPLINTERS OUT OF YOUR BODY...WHICH PROVES YOU'RE NOT SUPERMAN!

IF YOU WERE SUPERMAN, YOUR SKIN WOULD BE PENETRABLE AND WE COULDN'T GIVE YOU A BLOOD TRANSFUSION! NOW COME CLEAN! WHO ARE YOU? WHY WERE YOU WEARING A SUPERMAN COSTUME?
GREAT KRYPTONITE! I KNOW WHAT'S WRONG! THE RED KRYPTONITE REACTION!

IT ROBBED ME OF MY SUPER-POWERS JUST AS I WAS ABOUT TO STOP THOSE CROOKS! I BECAME INSTANTLY TRANSFORMED INTO A NORMAL HUMAN BEING...
OBVIOUSLY THIS FELLOW ISN'T TALKING! TAKE HIM TO A PRIVATE ROOM, NURSE! I WANT PERRY WHITE OF THE DAILY PLANET TO QUESTION HIM! HE'LL KNOW WHETHER HE'S A FAKER OR NOT!

THAT EVENING, AS THE PLANET STAFF VISITS SUPERMAN...

THE DOCTOR HERE WANTS ME TO PROVE WHETHER YOU ARE AN IMPOSTOR OR NOT. IF YOU REALLY ARE SUPERMAN, TELL ME WHAT YOU GAVE ME FOR MY BIRTHDAY LAST MONTH!
THAT'S EASY... I GAVE YOU THAT CIGAR LIGHTER YOU'RE USING. IT CONTAINS A FUEL FROM ANOTHER WORLD, SO THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO REFILL IT FOR TEN YEARS!

THERE'S NO DOUBT OF HIS BEING SUPERMAN! ONLY SUPERMAN AND I KNOW ABOUT THIS UNIQUE LIGHTER!
THEN SUPERMAN HAS ACTUALLY LOST HIS POWERS! WHAT A BLOW! NOW THE WHOLE UNIVERSE WILL BE AT THE MERCY OF THE MENACES SUPERMAN ALONE USED TO HANDLE!

THIS IS TERRIBLE! SUPERMAN IS NOW AN ORDINARY PERSON!
THAT'S RIGHT, LOIS! THE DAYS OF MY RESCUING YOU IN THE NICK OF TIME MAY NOW BE GONE FOREVER!

HERE'S THE SIGNAL-WATCH YOU GAVE ME, SUPERMAN! I-I GUESS I WON'T BE NEEDING IT ANY MORE!
NO, JIMMY! IT LOOKS LIKE I... UH... WON'T BE MUCH USE TO YOU NOW!
THEY'RE ALL CONVINCED I'VE LOST MY SUPER-POWERS! THEY DON'T REALIZE THAT ANY RED KRYPTONITE CAN'T AFFECT ME FOR MORE THAN 48 HOURS AT THE MOST!

TWO DAYS FROM NOW ALL MY WOUNDS WILL AUTOMATICALLY HEAL AND I'LL BE MY OLD SELF AGAIN! BUT WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY THIS SITUATION GIVES ME TO LEARN SOMETHING THAT'S PUZZLED ME FOR YEARS! WHETHER LOIS AND LANA ARE IN LOVE WITH MY GLAMOR OR ME!
NEXT DAY...
MORNING, SUPERMAN! I'VE BROUGHT YOU SOME CANDY AND FRUIT! ALSO BOOKS TO READ TO YOU!
AND I'VE BROUGHT MY TRANSISTOR RADIO, PHONOGRAPH AND A STACK OF RECORDS!
GOSH, GIRLS! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE TO ALL THAT TROUBLE!
NONSENSE! FRIENDS NEVER DESERT A LOVED ONE IN TIME OF NEED! NOW WHAT SHALL I READ TO YOU... SHAKESPEARE OR A MYSTERY?
AND AFTER I FLUFF UP YOUR PILLOWS, I'LL PLAY YOUR FAVORITE RECORDS! WHAT'LL IT BE... BEETHOVEN OR BOP?
BUT GIRLS, YOU MUSTN'T FUSS OVER ME! I'M NOBODY SPECIAL NOW! THE DOCTORS SAY THAT WHEN I RECOVER I'LL BE AN ORDINARY MAN FOREVER!
YOU'LL NEVER BE ORDINARY TO ME! YOU'LL ALWAYS BE YOU, THE MAN I LOVE!
SMACKK!
RIGHT! EVEN WITHOUT YOUR POWERS, YOU'RE SUPERIOR TO ANY OTHER MAN ALIVE!
HMM... THAT'S HOW THEY FEEL NOW! BUT WAIT TILL THEIR PITY FOR ME WEARS OFF AND THEY REALIZE I'M A HAS-BEEN! THEN WE'LL SEE HOW TRUE THEIR LOVE IS!
SMACKK!
DAYS LATER, WHEN THE DOCTOR REMOVES SUPERMAN'S HEAD BANDAGES...
NOW WE'LL FIND OUT HOW BADLY THAT GRENADE EXPLOSION AFFECTED YOUR VISION, SUPERMAN! STARE AHEAD AND TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE!
LANA AND I ARE STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF SUPERMAN. SURELY HE MUST SEE US!

BUT ALAS, WHAT DOES THE MAN OF STEEL SEE, AS HE PAINFULLY GAZES AHEAD?
EVERYTHING IS A BLUR, DOCTOR! I CAN'T TELL ONE FIGURE FROM ANOTHER! I GUESS THE GRENADE BLAST DAMAGED MY OPTIC NERVES!
IT'S SHOCKING, LANA! HE CAN'T SEE--BUT ONLY 48 HOURS AGO HE HAD MICROSCOPIC, TELESCOPIC, AND X-RAY VISION!
SHH, LOIS... SUPERMAN MAY HEAR YOU!
YOU FORGET SUPERMAN NO LONGER HAS SUPER-HEARING! THE GLAMOROUS SUPER-HERO WE ONCE KNEW IS NO MORE! NOW HE'S JUST AN INVALID!
ER... SUPERMAN! FORGIVE ME FOR SAYING SO...BUT FOR ONCE YOU MUST BE PRACTICAL! HERETOFORE YOU'VE NEVER BEEN INTERESTED IN MONEY, THOUGH YOU COULD HAVE BEEN A SUPER-BILLIONAIRE!
BUT NOW YOU MUST MAKE A LIVING LIKE ANY AVERAGE MAN! SO HOW ABOUT WRITING YOUR MEMOIRS? WE'LL PRINT THEM FIRST IN THE PLANET! THEN, IN BOOK FORM, THEY'LL BECOME A BEST-SELLER! JUST DICTATE INTO THIS TAPE RECORDER!
THANKS, PERRY! CONSIDERING MY PRESENT CONDITION, IT SOUNDS LIKE A GREAT IDEA!
WHY DON'T YOU BEGIN BY RELATING HOW YOU ALWAYS KEPT AN EYE ON YOUR BEST FRIENDS? LIKE THE MANY TIMES YOU RESCUED JIMMY OLSEN, LOIS, LANA, AND ME?
ALL RIGHT, PERRY! I'LL START WITH LANA...
"I RECALL THE TIME WHEN LANA WAS TRAPPED IN THE PREHISTORIC PAST AND I ARRIVED ON THE SCENE JUST AS SHE WAS ABOUT TO BECOME A DINOSAUR'S BREAKFAST!"

"THEN THERE WAS THE TIME WHEN LUTHOR ABANDONED LOIS IN OUTER SPACE AND SHE WAS MENACED BY SAVAGE ALIENS! TO SAVE HER, I DUG A WIDE CHASM AT SUPER-SPEED!"
SHORTLY...
THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY, PERRY! I FEEL TOO WEAK TO CONTINUE!
ISN'T IT AWFUL, LANA? SUPERMAN CAN NEVER COME TO OUR RESCUE AGAIN!
YOU'RE RIGHT! OUR WHOLE LIVES WILL CHANGE NOW THAT SUPERMAN IS NO LONGER "SUPER"!
THE NEXT DAY...
THE DOCTORS SAID IT MAY TAKE A YEAR BEFORE YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT, SUPERMAN! BUT YOU CAN COUNT ON LOIS OR ME TO BE AROUND!
YOU MEAN... BOTH OF YOU STILL CARE FOR AN INVALID LIKE ME?
INVALID... BOSH! NOTHING... UH... COULD CHANGE OUR FEELINGS TOWARD YOU!
HMM... IT WON'T BE LONG NOW BEFORE THE RED KRYPTONITE WEARS OFF! SO TONIGHT WON'T BE TOO SOON TO LEARN HOW THESE GIRLS REALLY FEEL ABOUT ME! BUT I MUST LAY MY PLANS CAREFULLY...
THAT NIGHT, DURING VISITING HOURS...
HE'S ASLEEP! LOOK, LOIS! I'VE HAD A TOUGH DAY AT THE TV STUDIO AND IT'S RAINING PITCHFORKS OUTSIDE! I'D LIKE TO GO HOME AND TAKE A HOT BATH!
YES, THERE'S NO SENSE SITTING HERE AND WATCHING HIM SNOOZE! BUT I'VE BEEN WONDERING SOMETHING, LANA! MIND IF I SPEAK FRANKLY TO YOU... ABOUT SUPERMAN?

THAT'S IT, GIRLS! START TALKING! I CAN'T MAKE OUT YOUR VOICES OR SEE YOU CLEARLY, BUT THE TAPE RECORDER VOLUME IS TURNED UP TO CATCH YOUR EVERY WORD!
WELL, AS YOU KNOW, SUPER-MAN ISN'T SUPER ANY MORE! HE'S JUST ORDINARY NOW! THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING FOR ME...

AS THE TWO GIRLS REVEAL THEIR TRUE FEELINGS...
I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR CHANGE OF HEART AND WHY YOU'D NEVER MARRY SUPERMAN NOW. BUT I'D MARRY HIM EVEN IF HE WERE DEAF, DUMB AND BLIND!
THEN I WISH YOU LUCK, BECAUSE I'M DROPPING OUT OF THE PICTURE! I GUESS I WAS ALWAYS IN LOVE WITH THE SUPER-HERO, NOT THE MAN BENEATH THE COSTUME!

AFTER THEY LEAVE, SUPERMAN EAGERLY PLAYS BACK THE TAPE...
SQUAAWW! I WON'T MARRY SUPERMAN NOW THAT HE ISN'T SUPER ANY MORE! SQUAWW! KRAA!
WELL, I'D MARRY HIM EVEN IF HE WERE DEAF, DUMB AND BLIND!
;GASP!; I CAN'T MAKE OUT WHO'S TALKING! THE STORM MUST HAVE AFFECTED THE MECHANISM AND RUINED THE SOUND! ONE SAYS SHE'LL MARRY ME! ONE SAYS SHE WON'T! BUT I CAN'T TELL WHETHER IT'S LOIS OR LANA!

SUDDENLY...
SEE? DIDN'T I TELL YOU THAT GRENADE WOULDN'T STOP HIM? NOW HE'S GOT US!
G-GOT THEM? BUT THAT GRENADE INJURED ME! I-I LOST MY SUPER-POWERS! I WAS HOSPITALIZED AND I WAS TESTING LOIS AND LANA TO SEE WHICH ONE TRULY LOVED ME!

GREAT KRYPTON! NOW I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED! THE RED KRYPTONITE DIDN'T AFFECT MY POWERS AT ALL! BUT FOR ONE SPLIT SECOND, IT GAVE ME A HALLUCINATION ABOUT LOIS AND LANA'S FEELINGS ABOUT ME! BETWEEN THE TIME OF THE GRENADE BURST AND NOW I ONLY EXPERIENCED A SUPER-SPEED DREAM!

SHORTLY, AS THE PRESS AND MOBILE TV CAMERA UNIT ARRIVE...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SUPERMAN? YOU'RE STARING AT ME SO STRANGELY!
AND AT ME, TOO! WHAT'S WRONG?
WHY... ER... NOTHING!
HMM... EVEN IN A MOMENTARY HALLUCINATION I COULDN'T LEARN WHICH ONE WOULD MARRY ME FOR MYSELF! I WONDER... WHICH OF THE TWO GIRLS SAID "NO"... WHICH ONE SAID "YES"??
READERS - CAN YOU GUESS? GIVE US YOUR REASONS AND WE'LL PRINT THE BEST LETTERS! - Editor
THE END

JERRY
THE JITTERBUG
I'LL PICK NANCY UP AND OFF WE'LL GO TO THE BIG DANCE!
R-RING
HELLO, NANCY!
COME IN, JERRY. I WAS JUST READING THE MOST MARVELOUS BOOK!
COME ON, PUT THE BOOK DOWN! WE'RE GOING TO THE DANCE - REMEMBER?
YOU AND THAT BOOK! NOW PROMISE NOT TO SIT OUT ANY DANCES JUST TO READ IT!
I PROMISE, JERRY!
I'LL BE THROUGH WITH IT SOON, JERRY. I SIMPLY MUST SEE HOW IT ENDS!
THE END

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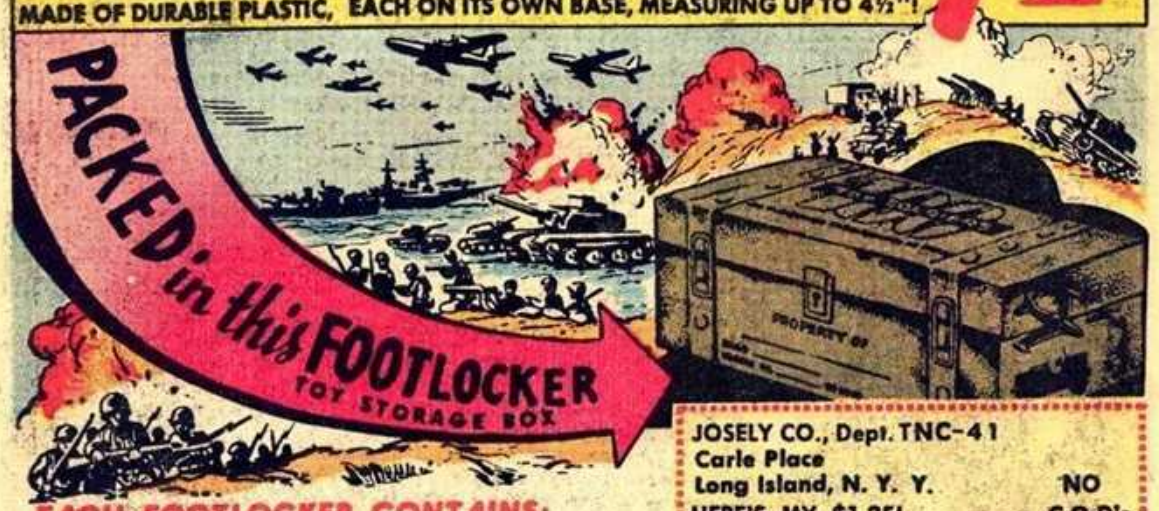

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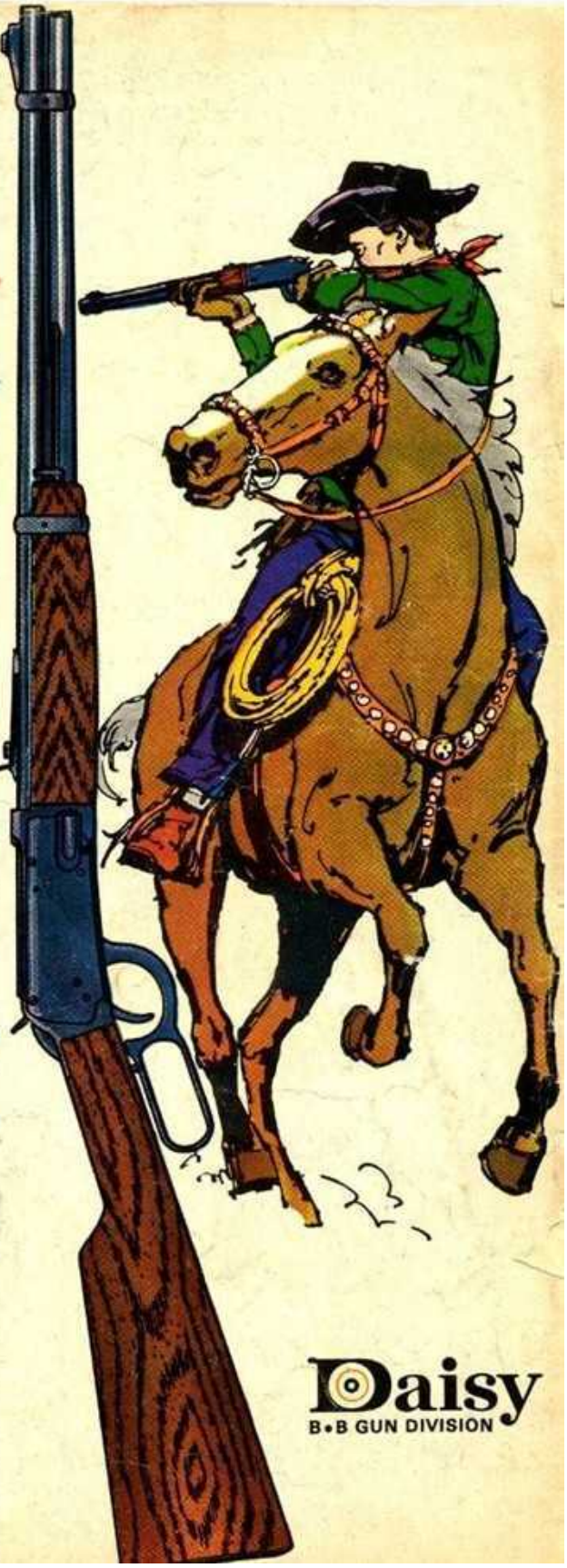

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